

AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING METERS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In one aspect of the present invention, a system is provided for automatically enforcing parking spaces. The system comprises a vehicle sensor for determining whether a vehicle is parked in the parking spaces and a vehicle identification device for capturing images of the vehicle. The system further comprises a parking meter. The parking meter comprises a processor, a memory, a file storage unit comprising a violation manager for determining whether a violation has occurred and generating a notice of violation, and a communications unit for transmitting the notice, and the images or unique characteristics of the vehicle, via a network to a central receiving office, wherein the central receiving office identifies the owner of the vehicle and creates a summons for the owner of the vehicle in response to the notice of violation.